SPIRIT OF THE PRESS.

EDITORIAL OPINIONS OF THE LEADING JOURNALS UPON CURRENT TOPICS-COMPILED EVERY BAY FOR THE EVENING TELEGRAPH.

A Very Foolish Liar.

From the N. Y. Tribune. The late Republican National Convention,

in its platform, Resolved, The guarantee by Congress of equal suffrage to all loyar men at the South was de-manded by every consideration of public safety, of gratitude, and of justice, and must be maintained; white the question of suffrage in all the loyar States properly belongs to the peo-ple of those states."

The National Intelligencer, commenting there-

on, thus shamelessly ries:-

"This is a specimen of the liberty and equity, and fraternity' which radicalls m prates about so constantly. It offers a premium to barbarism, constantly. It offers a premium to barbarism, and puts intelligence under the ban. The colored man of the North, who is comparatively instructed, and is vastly higher in the social and moral scale than the plantation Samoo, and moral scale than the plantation Samoo, who hardly knows his own name, is declared unfit to enjoy the elective franchise; while the poor, degraded creature, fresh from the rice-swamps, is pronounced competent to make constitute as and laws for the white man, and to control his property and personaliberty. Radioalism has one creed for the South and another for the North, each applicable to the same race. for the North, each applicable to the same race The black man is treated as an Ishmaelite or Pariah in the North, where he is absolutely powerless, and where his combined race cannot carry a single Congressional District. Chicago

a brand upon his brow like that of Cain."

-The Tribune has never, during its twentyseven years' existence, held or proclaimed any other basis of government than that of the equal rights of all men. We fought for that principle as heartily in 1846, when we polled but 85,000 votes for it in this State, as in 1860, when we more than doubled that number; and as heartily as we do now, when it is the cherished creed of at least 300,000 of our New York fellow-citizens. Yet we do not quite see by what right New York or Massachusetts shall prescribe the conditions of suffrage in Illinois: though we see very clearly how and why the people of the loyal States should insist, in restoring Rebel States to self government, that the loyal people of those States should have a voice in their government henceforth, and not be put under the feet of their Rebel ex-masters. may be convinced, by the course of events, that the nation has power and right to decree equal rights to citizens in every State; and we deeply regret that the F-deral Constitution did not expressly so prescribe. As yet, however, we rest on the Chicage platform, as above quoted. Yet can there be a second liar so brazen as to assert that we thereby "declare the colored man of the North unfit to enjoy the elective franchise," and "put a brand on his brow like that of Cain ?"

The Copperheads.

From the N. Y. Times. It is quite evident that the Democratic party requires the descipline of another great defeat to bring it to its senses. The Copperhead element is rampant, insolent, and defiant. Often overthrown, frequently cowed, sometimes apparently ready to give up the ghost, it yet persists in forcing itself to the foreground at every opportunity, and is always ready to attempt to seize the reins and manage the party for its own behoof. Nothing could more strikingly display the desperate nature of the faction than its conduct at the present

Democratic Convention. If the Copperheads were capable of being taught, they would have learned wisdom from the events of the last eight years. They would have learned that the vast majority of the American people are utterly and unalterably opposed to their principles, their policy, their schemes, their past course, their present pretensions, and their future supremacy. They would have discovered the impossibility of now effecting the object of their desires; they would have found out the futility of opposing the national will and the national destiny.

But it seems these Copperheads have learned nothing at all. They come along here with all their old airs and assumptions. They claim the right to rule the Democratic party; and the Democratic party lacks the courage and the spirit to resent their pretensions, and spurn their presence. Nothing, therefore, remains for the Democratic party but another great defeat. The Republicans are well prepared to administer it. The people will not tolerate the supremacy of this old Copperhead faction. As they have heretofore overthrown it whenever it has shown itself, so they must again overthrow it, and with that overthrow crush out its existence. After such an experience, one may suppose that even the Democracy will learn something.

Caught in the Manner.

From the Tribune.

The World is a loud-mouthed oracle of that school of political philosophy which affirms that "The world is governed too much," rather than too badly, and holds that what-ever goes beyond keeping men from breaking each other's heads and picking each other's pockets is outside of the proper functions of the State. Yet, see how it abjures and tramples on its own doctrine in the following:-

"A FEMALE SLAVE TRADE.-There seems to be no doubt that an infamous traffic, which has for years been carried on between London and the great towns of Northern Germany, has been opened between those towns and New York. The North German journals (and not the North German journals only) come to use with advertisements dated in Crosby, Mercer and other notorious streets of this city, in which the advertisers invite 'well-educated and agree able young German ladies of good family, to come out to America as governesses.' Agencies in Hamburg and Bremen are established to provide the victims of this atrocious trade with the means of reaching New York, and harples, ready at New York wharves upon their arrival, soon put them beyon the reach of numan help. Lang: age is too weak to brand this villalny as it deserves to be branded, but the law caunot be too weak to arrest its progress. The Com-missioners of Emigration and the municipal authorities on both sides of the Atlantic should lose no time in taking active and efficient steps for putting a stop to this inconcelvably horrible form of the slave trade.

-We need hardly say that the Tribune heartly assents to the World's propositions. We only insist that the same protection be extended to Americans that the World solicits for Germans. "This atrocious trade" has long been flourishing here, and will be so long as houses of infamous resort are allowed to exist. Every brothel is a perpetual conspi-racy against the purity and happiness of every unprotected young woman in the coun-"Harpies" are not merely "ready" to clutch friendless girls at the wharves; they seize those who come in from the country; and they have emissaries and scouts looking in every direction for those who may be made their victims. So long as the traffic in female ruin is tolerated and gainful, so long will American girls be day by day lured into its tawdry saloons by every species of deception and fraud-to sink thence into lower, though not fouler, depths of pollution and infamy. There can be no sa'ety for unprotected innocence until an aroused and chastened public sentiment shall indignatitly, resistlessly de-

So with regard to gambling. The blackleg is as palpably, flagrantly a public enemy as the bawd. He robs our young men of their money, their honesty, their self-respect; rain- American press took up the hint with great log hundreds every yoar, and thus steadily alacrity, that the "recognition" of Abyssinia

mand the utter extermination of houses of ill

recruiting the armies of Satan. Prebably, a full half of the villains of our city—those who live by rascality and glory in it—took their first steps on their downward road in making their way to a gambling-house.

We know it is said Man's perverted passions will have gratification. If that plea is good for anything, it avails the advertisers con-demned by the World as much as others. But there is no force in it. It is not human frailty that we war upon, but the cold-blooded vil-lainy that takes advantage of that frailty in pursuit of sordid gain. Men will steal and forge. Yet we do not tolerate seminaries for perfecting neophytes in forgery and theft. Gambling and lewdness might not be eradicated by the sternest legal repression, but they would be reduced to their lowest dimensions. If our laws simply confiscated the premises perverted, with their owner's privity, to the vile uses of the blackleg or the libertine, there would be a speedy cessation of such advertising as the World so preperly deprecates. Vice would grovel in caverns and cower in rags, instead of rioting in palaces and flaunting in gorgeous apparel. And there will yet, we trust, be matured and developed a public sentiment that will demand and secure sterner laws than we now have, and public prosecutors quite other than A. Oakey Hall.

Andy Johnson's Farewell Address.

From the N. Y. Herald.

Messrs. F. W. Coggill, William H. Appletonand a half dozen other persons having written a letter to President Johnson asking the privilege of presenting his name "to the Democratic Convention as a candidate for the office of President of the United States," he has in-timated that "Barkis is willin"," that is, "if deemed desirable for the preservation and unity of the conservative interests of the country." But he wants "a call so general and unequivocal" that it will amount to an endorsement of his course by the people, and he thinks "that in the present temper of parties" no such endorsement can be reasonably expected.

Mr. Johnson then proceeds to a philosophical review of the present political condition of things, which gives to his historical letter the character somewhat of a farewell address after the fashion of George Washington and Andrew Jackson. A pretty good address it is, too; and it comes to the windward within hailing distance of the Democratic platform. Among other things which he has vainly tried to do against a two-thirds vote of each house of Congress, he mentions his efforts to check extravagant expenditures and to lighten the burdens of taxation. And all this time he has been like John Tyler, or like Rome, "when Cæsar had a party, and Pompey and Crassus each had a party, and the com-monwealth had none." But while Mr. Johnson has had to fight a radical Congress since the close of the war, and has had to bear and suffer many things in silence for the sake of the people, he says, "I cannot complain if the prople have not been able to make my cause thoroughly their own." But until the people wake up to the extravagant, reckless, and oppressive partisan schemes of Congress, "the nation will have to be content with delusive hopes and promises of better times." That is as true as Gospel. Mr. Johnson's views upon this important matter are seasonable and well put. The people must wake up, or they are gone. Like a true philosopher, while he is not very sanguine of the immediate approach of the millenium, "in the present temper of parties," and while he is "in the hands of the people (including this Democratic Convention) and at their disposal," be thinks, in any event, he can look calmly on the present course of events, and "patiently await the verdict of the future." So he can, and so, we hope, he will. He thinks that Old stevens and Ben Butler and the radicals generally, in the late impeachment, "have done the worst that faction can do for the present;" from which it is evident that 'honest Andy'' is not much frightened by these new impeachment resolutions. Finally, he expresses the hope to the Democracy that in the selection of their candidate "the public good and leading and well-defined principles will not be sacrificed to the mere purpose of party ascendancy." In a modest way this is an appeal against Pendleton and any man of that type, and a strong hint in favor of some such constitutional conservative as Johnson,

Chase, Doolittle, or Dixon. In a word, while this letter of Mr. Johnson's is a dignified bid for the Democratic nomination it is at the same time a warning to the Democratic Convention, and in reading it we are reminded of another philosopher's beautiful and consoling words—"blessed is he who don't expect anything, for he shall not be dis-

The British Neutrality Laws. From the N. Y. Times.

In its many columns of comment upon the report of the Commissioners on the Neutrality Laws, the London Times has made no more incisive and vital thrust into the main question than by its remarks upon the existing distinction between ships and contraband of Indeed, its observation upon that war. point touches one of the main springs of the pending international controversy. "There is this difference," said the *Times*, "between ships and other warlike stores, that the latter must be taken to some place in the possession of the belligerent, and thence directed against his adversary, while the ship may never go near the belligerent's territory at all." That is very true, and that is precisely one of the reasons why America complained of the insufficiency of the present theories of the international law on this topic, for the preservation of commerce from the raids of cruisers fitted out in neutral ports.

Had the Alabama, for example, been compelled to run the risk of the blockade which we established, had she been forced to enter a Southern port in order to acquire belligerent rights or the status of a Confederate ship, the whole question now pending between us and England would be essentially changed. Had she attempted to run the blockade as an unwarlike ship and succeeded, and then again put out, armed, equipped and manned as a ship-of-war, doubtless we should have looked on her depredations in a different light. On the other hand, had she failed and been captured, that would have been the end of the

In other words, what made the case of the ship more exasperating than the case of powder, shot, or other munitions of war, was this-that these latter were ordinarily run through the blockade before they could become Confederate property, or could be used against us; but the Alabama, by virtue of the British recognition which she obtained as a belligerent ship, did not need to run the blockade. She hoisted Confederate colors without having seen a Confederate port; and the English assisted her pretensions by taking no steps to overhaul her and bring her into

their sustedy. The London Times well says that under the present principle, Theodore himself might have had a score of armed vessels of French, or American build on the sea. Indeed, the debate in our Senates on Mr. Chandler's famous Abyssinian revolution will illustrate this point. It was then suggested, and the

would justify Theodore in subsidizing the piratical craft of American adventurers, who, without ever going within 5000 miles of Theodore's domain, would prey upon British commerce. And surely they might fly the Abyesinian flag with as much propriety as the Alabama did the Confederate, though the

absurdity of their forming a part of the "Abyssinian pavy" would be very apparent. Tristram Shandy's father and uncle had a famous debate on the question whether Bohemia could have had a seaport. The former thought, with a thorough belief in Omnipotence, that it could, if God willed. "I think gravely replies my uncle Toby. The Confederacy, under the English view, had a navy when it had not a port. Towards the close of the war, when every single harbor was in the possession of our troops, the Englishbuilt corsairs were sallying from foreign coaling stations and ravaging our commerce. The Alabama, from the day she was launched tili Winslow blew her out of water, never saw a Confederate port. "It is evident," says the Times, "that the line of prohibition must be drawn by the neutral State so as to include ships," and we quite agree with that senti-ment. That was the chief aim, indeed, of the labors of the late Commission.

Senator Ramsey's Mistakes. From the World.

The bill introduced into the Senate by Mr. Ramsey, of Minnesota, to regulate our trade with Kanada, in most respects the same as that of Mr. Beaman's, is liable to the objection as to the monopoly it would confer on the route to Canada via Portland, and in some other particulars. But it has the additional and praiseworthy characteristic of embodying a bold and comprehensive attempt to extend reciprocity to goods manufactured in each country from the materials produced in it, subject in each case to a duty of five per cent. Of course there would be infinite frauds in carrying this plan into practice. None could tell whether cloth of certain kinds was made from Canadian or other wool, and so on of many other manufactures, so that we should be adopting to a considerable extent a five per cent, tariff on the manufactures not only of Canada, but of the world. Oaths might be exacted, but custom-house oaths of this kind made in foreign countries are not much more efficacions than those of radical Senators and Representatives at Washington to support the

Constitution of the United States. Besides, a mere duty of five per cent. would by no means counterbalance the superior aivantages of Canada for manufacturing, conferred upon her by our large debt and the monstrous and ill-adjusted method of providing for it. In many of those articles of which Canada produces the raw material, such as Mr. Ramsey proposes to a lmit at a duty of five per cent., her people would have an item of five per cent. advantage to begin with, and in iron for machinery, rails, locomotives and ships or boats for trausit-on every point as to general cheapness Canada would have enormous advantages. But in other respects Mr. Ramsey's bill indicates very little reflection. For instance, according to the bill, whisky made from cheap Canadian grain might be admitted at a duty of five per cent. So long as the bill remained in force we should have no power to prevent this, and should be at the mercy of the Canadians, who could thus cut us off from what ought to be an important and proper source of our excise revenue.

Mr. Ramsey specifically adds agricultural implements to the list of articles to be admitted at five per cent. A few years ago we exported them on a very large scale to Canada; but the Canadian tariff transferred the manufacture to the northern side of the frontier. Wood and iron are the materials used. The Canadians have wood more than five per cent. cheaper than our oppressively taxed people, and have iron yet cheaper by many times over. Consequently, if Mr. Ramsey's system were likely to be permanent, it would transfer the manufacture of agricultural implements from this to the other side. Ploughs are agricultural implements, and iron ploughs are no exception to the plain rule. Nor are iron steam-ploughs, with all their machinery, to be reasonably excepted. But it is easy to see that, with iron free of duty, the Canadians could completely drive our people out of the

market in our own country. Their advantages would be quite as great in making iron ships. We name this to show how difficult it is to make any minor change in our very complex system without making far wider derangements than are at first obvious. Scarcely anything is better entitled to be free of duty than agricultural implements, but the same might be said of ships, railroad iron, tools, etc., etc. What is needed is to give our manufacturers a fair chance of making good articles at low prices, as well as to insist on fair competition. It is unjust to subject them to competition when they are fettered by high prices on all that enters into production -to tie them down and then insist on their running a race where they furnish heavy

All these difficulties are the result of preferring brute force to statesmanlike prudence and We became wedded in much haste to the idea that a national debt is a national blessing. The bonds are indissoluble, and we are now at the beginning of the same long business wherein we shall have ample time to

More Robbery Proposed. From the N. Y. Evening Fost.

fron now costs, by reason of the high tariff. twice as much as it ought. Congress, to favor a small and already wealthy class, of which Mr. Thaddens Stevens is only one of the representatives, has so arranged taxation as to double the price of iron, one of the chief necessaries of life, to the workingmen of the counry. Cheap iron is as necessary to the comfort of the farmers and mechanics of the country as cheap bread. Double the price of iron, and you double the price of ploughs, mowing machines, hoes, harrows, hammers, planes, axes, nails; you largely increase the cost of every barn, stable, shed, and farm-house; you diminish the means of every man who works with his hands, of every farmer, me-chanic, and laboring man in the land, except the few who are engaged in the production of iron.

To double the price of iron, then, is to inflict distress upon the whole country; to make every workingman's family poorer. Yet this is what the tariff men in Congress have done, and they are not even satisfied with this. They now propose to increase still more the price of this necessary of life. Mr. Moorhead, of Pennsylvania, a wealthy iron master, is with shameless effrontery pushing a tariff bill, whose principal object is largely to increase the already onerous and wicked duties on iron, and thus give the few wealthy American ironmasters the power to increase still more the price of this necessary of life to the millions of armers and workingmen who must use it in

its various forms. The Tribune urgss Republican members to hasten back to Washington to help to pass this increased tariff. Does this mean that the Republican party is to have this iniquitous measure fathered upon it? Are the Republican leaders willing to go into the Presidential canvass as the authors or supporters of a measure which bitterly wrongs every work-

ingman in the country, merely to put more meney into the pockets of a few rich monop

It is amazing to see the folly of some Republican politicians, who permit their party to be used in this and other ways, by schem ing and grasping monopolists, towring mon-y from the impoverished and tax burd-nest people. Congress apparently means to adjourn without completing the reconstruction of the States, that important measure which, for the sake of the Republican party's future, as well as for the country's good, ought to be settled and put out of the way before the Presidential election. But it would seem that, with all the pressure of important nufinished business, it will make time to hurry through this inju rious tariff bill.

We warn the Republican leaders that they cannot go before the country this fall bearing the responsibility of such a bill. They can not face the American people if they abet such a robbery. They will be denounced every where as the allies of a small band of greedy and unscrupulous monopolists; and it will not do to say that the Democrats are just as bad. If this bill is passed, it must be by Republican votes; the Republicans alone can prevent its passage; and they will be extremely unwise if they do not.

It is not safe for them to trust in this cauvass, as they have in several before, to the folly of the Democrats. The Democrats, whomever they nominate, will make a vigorous canvass; they will expose all the sins of omission and commission, of the R-publican majority in Congress; and it is mad ness in the Republicans to put this last and deadly weapon into the hands of their oppo-

Where Rests the Responsibility!

From the N. Y. Commercial Advertiser. "I thank God that the strife of arms has ceased, and that ones more in the great con-ventions of our party we can call through the whole roll of States, and find men to answer to each,"-Seymour's Speech.

Governor Seymour thanks God that all of the States are once more represented in a National Convention. But to whom is this gratifying result due? Is it the Democratic party which in 1864 declared in the Chicago Convention, over which this same Governor Seymour presided, that the war was "a failure. and should be stopped? The country was at that time enshrouded in gloom, and the Rebel prospects were brightening. Then it was that the Democratic party solemnly declared that no further efforts should be made to overcome them. In so many words it affirmed that the prosecution of the war had been of no avail, and that the time had come to let the insurgents go in peace and establish a separate Government of their own.

The great and patriotic Republican organiization, however, which had conducted the war to that point, never thought of hesitating or faltering. On the contrary, it pushed forward with renewed zeal and determination, and as a result Wade Hampton, William Preston, Napoleon Forrest, C. C Langdon, and other Southern politicians are gathered to-day in the city of New York to nominate a candidate for the whole United States, instead of assembling at Richmond, Charleston, or Montgomery to designate Jefferson Davis, Robert E Lee, or John C. Breckinridge as President of a Southern Confederacy. To the Republican party, and that party alone, is due the fact that the Tammany Convention to day embraces delegates from below Mason and Dixon's line.

Governor Seymour's speech, which is surcharged with passion and anger as no other address of his ever was, dwells much on the vast debt, depreciated currency, and heavy taxes of the country. But the party which he to day represents brought all of these ills upon the country. When the Southern States threatened to secede if Abraham Lincoln was chosen President, the Democratic party of the North encouraged their threats and menaces. An ex-Democratic President assured them that he, along with others, would rush to their rescue were any force attempted. Other Democratic leaders, at Meriden, Connec icut, and elsewhere, declared that a Northern army would have to march over their dead bodies before reaching Dixie. Democratic sheets, here in the metropolis, promised a hundred thousand defenders to the South from New York alone in the event of war. And one of them had a Rebel flag prepared to unfurl to the breeze opposite the way from where we

are now writing. Encouraged by such "manifestations" the Southern leaders inaugurated secession. A Democratic President, instead of crushing the initiatory movements, looked calmly on and declared that he had no power or authority to save the republic from going to pieces. While Floyd, as Secretary of War, stealthily conveyed war material from the Northern to the Southern arsenals, the other members of the Democratic Cabinet as stealthily and secretly plotted against the nation's life.

Then it was that our national burdens, over which Governor Seymour fairly raves and foams, began. The Democratic party had encouraged the flery Southerner to assail the Government, and the Republican party hastened to its defense, calling upon the country for men and money. As the war continued, the Democratic party, as such, vigorously opposed it, continuing to give moral as well as material support to the insurgents, and discouraging enlistments.

By thus keeping up a constant fire from the rear on the Government, it compelled still greater outlays of men and material, and swelled the public debt. State and local taxes are now being paid all over the country be cause the Democratic party prevented volunteering, encouraged "skedaddling," and hence necessitated the payment of heavy bounties. We, here in New York, are paying taxes to-day for property destroyed by Governor Seymour' "friends," when in the Summer of 1863 they rioted at will through our streets, and under the belief that they had his encouragement and sanction, plundered public and private dwellings, and shot down unoffending men, women and children. It is because of such deeds, because the Democratic party, as such, continued disloyal until the end of the conflict, that we are now saddled with national, State and local burdens. Had the Democratic party been loyal to the country, there would have been no rebellion, no secession, and no national debt. Had the Democratic party become loyal on the outbreak of the rebellion. that rebellion would have been overcome years earlier, and our national burdens would have been correspondingly less.

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